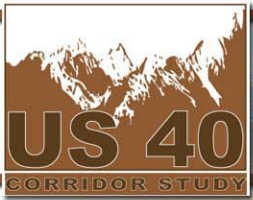


# Welcome to Public Meeting #1

Vernal, Roosevelt, and Heber City

April 30, May 1 and 2, 2007

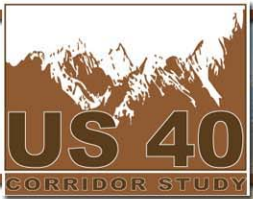




# Purpose of the US 40 Corridor Study

*To develop a long-term plan for improvements along U.S. Highway 40 from Heber City to Jensen that will meet the safety and operational needs of all corridor users*

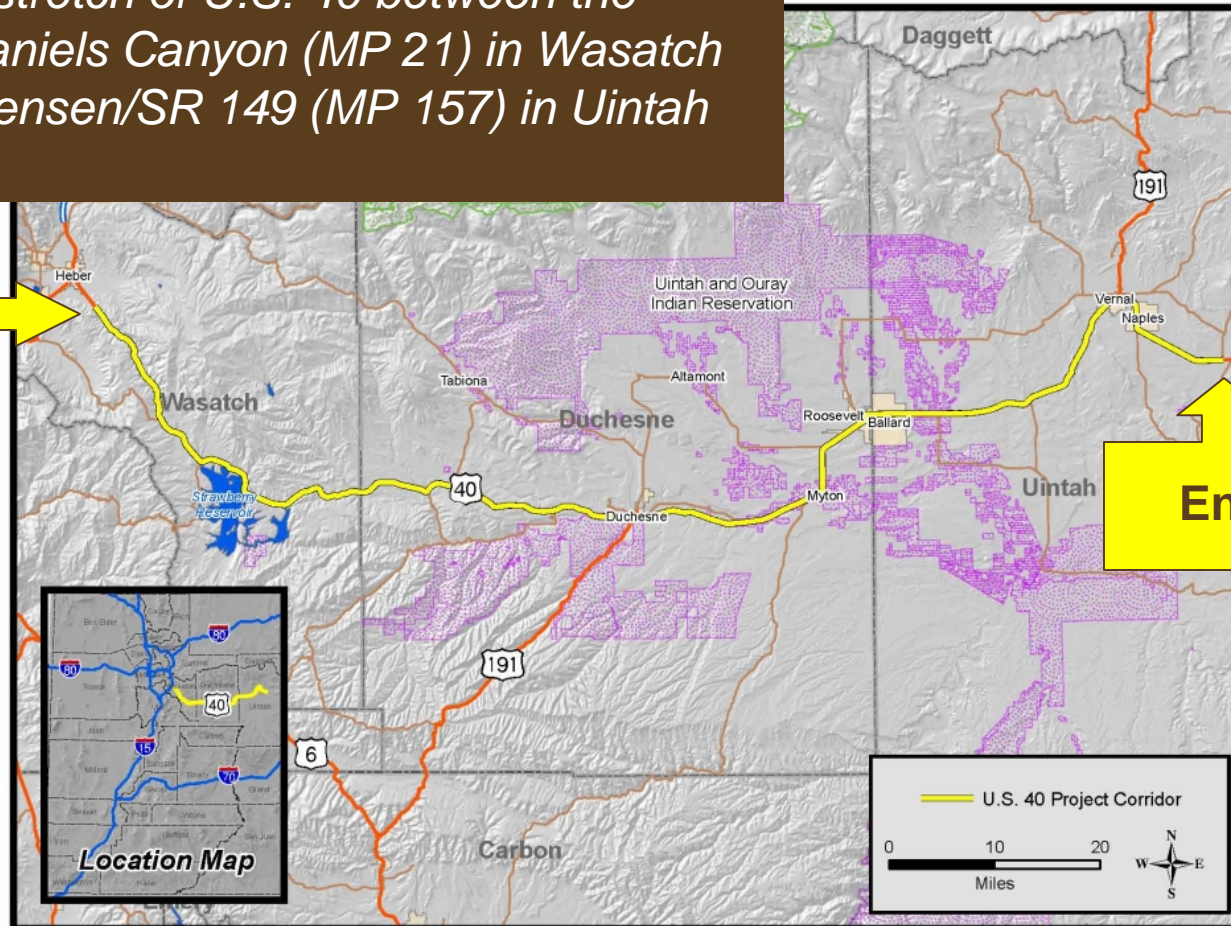




## Corridor Boundaries

*A 136-mile stretch of U.S. 40 between the mouth of Daniels Canyon (MP 21) in Wasatch County to Jensen/SR 149 (MP 157) in Uintah County*

**Begin**



**End**

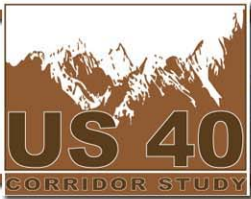


## Corridor Planning vs. NEPA

- **Funding**
  - Can use cost as a factor in screening
  - Recommendations help set priorities for regional funding
- **Regulations**
  - Not restricted to required procedures
- **Agency Participation**
  - Not required, but encouraged
- **Level of Analysis**
  - Tailored to specific corridor needs
  - Includes current data and future projections
  - Scan-level of detail to identify fatal flaws

- **Funding**
  - Must remain neutral on costs
- **Regulations**
  - Mandates environmental documentation and procedures (Cat-Ex, EA, EIS)
- **Agency Participation**
  - Required, FHWA is lead agency
- **Level of Analysis**
  - Comprehensive and exhaustive assessment





# Planning Steps and Schedule

<b>1. Initial Issues Identification</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholder interviews</li> <li>Develop mailing list</li> </ul>	Feb--Mar 2007	<b>5. Establish Corridor Vision</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Supporting Goals</li> </ul>	Jun 2007
<b>2. Assess Existing Conditions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transportation</li> <li>Environmental</li> <li>Land use</li> </ul>	Feb--Jun 2007	<b>6. Identify Corridor Improvements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritize Improvements</li> </ul>	Jul 2007
<b>3. Project Kick Off</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholder Workshop #1</li> <li>Public Meeting #1</li> </ul>	May 2007	<b>7. Evaluate Corridor Improvements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agency meeting</li> <li>Stakeholder Workshop #2</li> </ul>	Aug 2007
<b>4. Analyze Future Travel Demand</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate Highway Performance</li> </ul>	Apr--Aug 2007	<b>8. Public Input on Draft Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Meeting #2</li> </ul>	Aug 2007
		<b>9. Prepare Master Plan</b>	Sept-- Dec 2007



## What We've Heard So Far...

- Safety concerns
- Congestion
- Corridor development impacts
- Intersection conflicts
- Roadway design & operational issues
- Environmental issues
- Other issues



## Safety Concerns

- Increasing traffic, especially trucks
- Car / large truck conflicts
- High speeds
- Merging /intersection/ access conflicts
- Bike/pedestrian facilities issues, dangerous crossings
- School bus stops on highway
- Wildlife strikes
  - Elk crossing / strikes: MP 25, MP 88-89, MP 92, MP 93
  - Elk and deer crossing / strikes: MP 59-68
- Livestock on roadway through Daniels Canyon

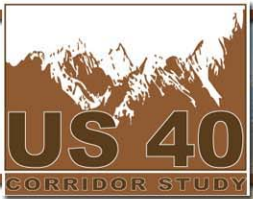




## Congestion

- Congested / Delays Duchesne to Jensen
- Slow truck access / merging causes congestion
- A.M. / P.M. peak hour congestion – Duchesne to Jensen
  - Between and through cities
  - Congestion, noise, pedestrian conflicts
  - High volume / increasing truck traffic from oil and gas industry





# Growth and Development Along Corridor

- **New/Planned Residential Development**
  - Mile Post 50.7 near Strawberry Reservoir
  - Southeast of Duchesne
  - Roosevelt : 2500 West, south side of US 40 and Moon Lake Development
- **Nonresidential Development**
  - Naples Industrial Area
  - Planned Daniels Summit Lodge expansion
  - Utah State University Development in Vernal
  - Oil and Gas Sites



## Intersection Conflicts

- Truck access point conflicts
  - SR 88, 12-Mile Rd., Pleasant Valley Rd., Bridgeland Rd., SR 87, SR 191, Bonanza Rd., Vernal Ave.
- City intersection conflicts throughout Roosevelt, Duchesne, Vernal, and Jensen
- Turning movement conflicts
- Left turn conflicts; lack of protection from through traffic
- Merging conflicts; lack of protection from through traffic



## Roadway Design & Operational Issues

- **Passing lane conflict areas**
  - Examples: MP 57-68; westbound MP 69 to Rest Area
  - Insufficient number & length of passing lanes throughout corridor
- **Insufficient lane capacity to minimize delays**
  - Lack of lane / roadway capacity to meet traffic volume needs – throughout corridor, but especially from Duchesne east to end
- **Narrow shoulders**
  - Throughout corridor, especially Duchesne east to end of corridor
- **Lane restrictions**
  - Many intersections too tight for trucks





# Roadway Design & Operational Issues

- **Narrow bridges**
  - Red Creek Sand Wash Bridge
  - Strawberry River Bridge
  - Duchesne River Bridge
- **Insufficient sight distance on hills**
  - Tops of hills where passing lanes end; West of Vernal at Vernal
- **Maintenance**
  - U.S. 40 striping is not visible enough at night
  - Premature roadway damage due to large trucks



## Environmental Issues

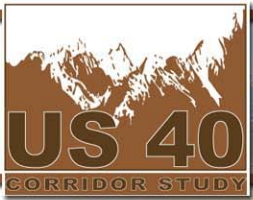
- Wildlife Crossings: all along corridor
- Water Quality: uncontrolled stormwater runoff
- Drainage: insufficient systems thru Roosevelt, Vernal, Naples
  - Highway drainage incompatible with some city drainage systems
- Hazardous materials: in and leaking from trucks
- Wetlands: Bridgeland to Myton
- Noise: truck noise
- Air and water quality: loose dirt through cities in spring



## Other Issues

- Potential impacts to tribal lands – Bridgeland through Myton
- Lack of U.S. 40 beautification through cities
- Overuse of U.S. Forest Service toilets at U.S. 40 rest areas





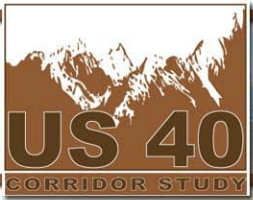
## Public Meeting Displays

- Corridor Planning Process
- Corridor “Issues” Map
- Environmental Conditions
- Traffic Data
- Crash Data
- Land Use
- Oil and Gas Development Sites



## Public Meeting Handouts

- Study brochure
- Stakeholder issues highlights
- Comment forms / return envelopes



## How to Continue Your Involvement

- Sign up on the mailing list
- Attend future public meetings
- Provide verbal or written comments
- Contact a study member for more information
- Visit the project web site:

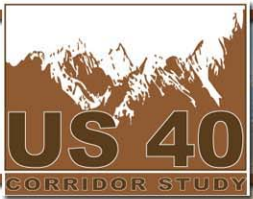
<http://www.udot.utah.gov/us40study/>





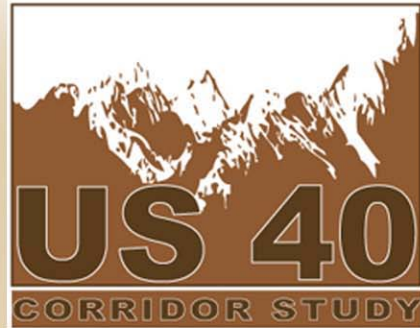
## Next Steps

- Compile public comments
- Complete existing conditions assessment
- Analyze future travel demand
- Establish corridor vision and goals
- Identify and evaluate potential corridor improvements



## Next Public Events

- Agency meeting – August 2007
- Stakeholder Workshops – August 2007
- Public Meeting #2 – August / September 2007



# Public Meeting #1

*Thanks for your participation!*





